

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/20/2024 9:12:38 PM

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Comments: It is unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors across the country when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.

I understand that the unchecked propagation of new fixed anchors may be of concern, but prohibiting them is NOT the solution. The climbing community has done a lot to alleviate perceived impact of anchors. We respect area closures, install colored bolt hangars, try not to leave behind slings and if needed also try to camouflage those anchors. Would this also apply to canyoneering? If so it would eliminate many, many routes which require fixed anchors for safe descents. This ban would also eliminate the growing sport of Via Ferratta's, which is not part of the climbing community. Would this also dis-allow replacement of guide cables in places like Grand Canyon where the average tourist relies on these?

In addition to the above, the climbing community has done much to help preserve these area. The community respects, and creates, closed areas, We have created sustainable trails to reduce impact and helped the forest and park service to maintain areas.

This ban is a bad idea, poorly thought out and should be re-examined.

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